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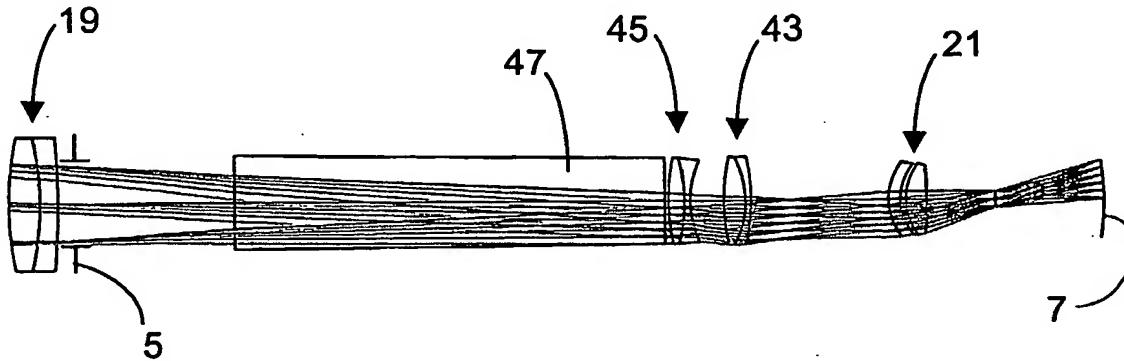
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(54) Title: DUAL POWER BINOCULAR WITH ADJUSTABLE STOP



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(57) Abstract: A dual power binocular (13) is provided which can be rapidly switched between a low magnification setting (wider field of view) and a high magnification setting (narrower field of view). Preferably, the switching is performed using a switch (17) mounted on, for example, the bridge (11) of the binocular (13). Each barrel (9) of the binocular includes an adjustable aperture stop. Preferably, the adjustable aperture stop is behind the binocular's objective (19), i.e., on the eyepiece (21) side of the objective (19). Most preferably, the adjustable aperture stop is a moveable aperture assembly (31) which restricts light passing through the binocular in the low magnification setting but not in the high magnification setting. Through the use of an adjustable aperture stop, the diameter of the exit pupil and thus the brightness of the imager perceived by the user is substantially the same for the two magnification settings.